

## REMARKS

Following the Panel Decision from the Pre-Appeal Brief Review in which the prior final rejection was withdrawn, claims 1-32 were present in the application. Of those claims, claims 1, 11 and 24 were independent claims.

Following the Panel Decision from the Pre-Appeal Brief Review, a new Office Action was mailed in which claims 1-23 were allowed, and claims 26 and 32 were allowed over the prior art, but objected to as depending from a rejected claim.

The remaining claims 24, 25 and 28-31 were non-finally rejected on a new ground of rejection as obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JOHNSTON (3,261,153), previously cited, in view of HADCOCK et al. (22,235), previously cited, and further in view of GRASHOW (3,003,149), newly cited.

Notwithstanding applicants' firm belief that all of the claims in the present application are clearly allowable over the prior art of record at the time of the last Office Action, in order to facilitate the grant of the present application as a patent, claim 24 has been amended herein to include the subject matter of previously allowed dependent claim 32, and claim 32 has been cancelled.

In addition, new dependent claims 33 and 35 have been added which depend from previously allowed independent claims 1 and 11 respectively, and set forth that the "elongate cavity is closed in the direction of its elongation and over said at least a portion of the length of said hollow finger". New dependent claims 34 and 36 have also been added which depend from previously allowed independent claims 1 and 11 and which set forth that the "elongate cavity is closed at the end of said hollow finger opposite said one end". These amendments are to more specifically define the construction of applicants' claimed invention and both are clearly shown and find support in the drawings as originally filed. New dependent claims 33-36 should also clearly be allowable since they depend from previously allowed independent claims 1 and 11.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims remaining in the present application, claims 1-31 and 33-36, are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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